

Ravalli County Commissioners Office

From: MACO <MACO@mtcounties.org>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2015 8:31 AM
To: MACO
Subject: UPDATE: HR 2647, the Resilient Federal Forests Act of 2015

Good afternoon Public Lands and Western Interstate Region Board Members,

Today the U.S. House of Representatives passed NACo supported legislation H.R. 2647, the Resilient Federal Forests Act of 2015. A big **thank you** to those of you who made your voices heard and contacted your Representatives in support of this critical legislation to improve the health and safety of federal forests and forest counties.

The bill passed with a bipartisan vote of 262 to 167. To see how your House members voted, please click [here](#).

During consideration of the legislation, three amendments to were adopted:

- An amendment by Rep. Tipton (R-Colo.) to extended the Farm Bill's fire liability limitations to Stewardship Contracts signed prior to the enactment of the 2014 Farm Bill.
- An amendment by Rep. Kilmer (D-Wash.) encouraging forest collaborative projects targeted at producing "advanced wood products".
- An amendment by Rep. Lujan-Grisham (D-N.M.) that would enable the Forest Service to enter more easily into forestry contracts with Native American tribes.

The legislation will now be transmitted to the U.S. Senate for further consideration.

The United States Senate is currently working on its own package of forest management reform legislation. A subcommittee hearing to consider forestry legislation introduced by Sen. Barasso (R-Wyo.) – S. 1691, the National Forest Ecosystem Improvement Act of 2015 – has been scheduled for Thursday, July 16.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Chris

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